(c) whether the survey undertaken by the Railways indicate the feasibility of the project; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Survey for conversion of Narrow Gauge line from Nadiad to Kapadvanj and its extension upto Modasa was conducted in 1974. The project was then estimated to cost Rs. 7.7 crores and was found to be financially unremunerative. However, on developmental consideration, the project was, approved and included in the Railway Budget for 1978-79 at an estimated cost of Rs. 10.15 crores.

Due to severe constraint of resources, sufficient funds could not be allocated to this project. The actual expenditure, on the Project, year-wise is as under:—

Year	Amount
1978-79	5607
1979-80	5727
1980-81	6320
1981-82	2925
1982-83	169
1983-84	8167
1984-85	6061
1985-86	3923
1986-87	1065
1987-88	8242
1988-89	605

During 1989-90, however, Rs. 3 crores have been allocated. Its completion will depend on availability of resources in the coming years. The final cost of the project would be known only when the project is completed.

Implementation of Recommendations of Bachawat Board

47. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received final report of the Bachawat Wage Board for the journalist and non-journalist and if so, what are the recommendations of the board;

(b) whether the Government would implement the recommendations in toto including for the Trust regarding revised Pay Scale HRA, CCA and pension scheme;

(c) whether Government have contemplated any penal action against the newspapers for not implementing the recommendations and whether Government would deny advertisement to the erring newspapers; and

(d) what is the modus operandi Government have evolved for the implementation of the Bachawat Board report and whether the tripartite committee would be appointed to over sea and monitor the implementation of the Wage Board recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir. A summary of some important recommendations is given in the annexed statement. (See below).

(b) The Government has recently written to the Chief Ministers of respective States and the Administrations of the Union Territories to evolve suitable Machinery for the implementation of the recommendations of the same. Their attention has also been invited for taking legal action under section 18 of the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service & Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1956 the non-implementation of the

orders issued under this Act. The Government has already notified the pay scales of journalists & non-journalists employees for implementation, in the Gazette. A notice has also been issued suggesting modifications in the recommendations pertaining to HRA & CCA as required under the Act.

(c) Provisions for penalty are contained in Section 18 of the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1955. The appropriate Government are empowered to take action accordingly.

(d) The State Governments are the appropriate governments to inforce the implementation of the recommendations as notified by the Government. The Central Government have advised State Governments to set up appropriate machinery to oversee and monitor the implementation of the recommendations.

Statement

Summary of the Recommendations

1. Classification of Newspaper Establishments and News agencies for the purpose of fixation of rates of wages in respect of Working Journalists and non-Journalists of Newspaper and News agency employees.

2. Grouping of Working Journalists and Non-Journalist Employees in newspaper establishments and news agencies into various categories for the purpose of fixation of rates of wages.

3. Recommendations on wages, scales and grades payable to newspaper and news agency employees of different groups in different classes of newspaper establishments and news agencies.

4. Recommendations on dearness allowance on the basis of rate of neutralisation of employees drawing upto Rs. 1,250/- would be 100 per cent. This would be reduced to 75 per cent for employees drawing between Rs. 1,251/- and Rs. 2,000/- to 60 per cent for employees drawing between Rs. 2,001/- and Rs. 3,500/- to 45 per cent for those drawing between Rs. 3,501/- and Rs. 5,000/- and to 35 per cent for those drawing Rs. 5,001/- and above.

5. Payment of house Rent Allowance, City Compensatory Allowance and Night Shift Allowance.

6. Fitment rules for the purpose of pay fixation in the new scales of pay.

7. Date of operation with regard to revised scales of pay shall be operative from 1.1.1988. Recommendations with regard to DA shall be operative for Classes IA to V from 1.4.1988 and for Classes VI to IX from 1.4.1989. The rest of recommendations shall come into force from the date of the order of the Central Government under Section 12 giving effect to the recommendations.

8. Recommendations regarding payment of arrears.

Enactment of Legislation on Panchayati Raj

48. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the reintroduction of the Bill on Panchayati Raj in Parliament; if so, what will be the salient features as distinct from the earlier Bill;

(b) whether the Centre-State relations and the subject within the perview of Consitution would be re-examined before introducing the Bill; if so, what are the parameters for deciding these; and

(c) whether Government are committed to repose powers to the peop/ at the grassroot level?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) A